

the week. One of his goals in serving as a leader in public television has been to creatively provide a quality alternative to commercial television. Not only has Mitch Fox worked to build bridges within the broadcast community, but he has also helped lower the high school drop-out rate over the past 20 years by assisting the Clark County School District in developing distance learning programs for K-12 students.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to my friend Mitch Fox for his longstanding service and dedication to the public broadcasting system and to the communities of Nevada. I wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING ALBERT RANDEL  
HENDRIX

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, an enduring member of Mississippi's healthcare community will soon be retiring from his position as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health. Dr. Albert Randel Hendrix has contributed decades of time, energy, and passion into serving his community, State, and individuals with mental health needs. Mississippi will miss his service.

Dr. Randy Hendrix is a native Mississippian, born and educated in Panola County. He served in our armed forces in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. Following his Army discharge, Dr. Hendrix returned to Mississippi to complete graduate studies at the University of Mississippi, where he completed his Master's Degree in 1971, and at the University of Southern Mississippi, where he completed his doctoral degree in 1979. Dr. Hendrix has completed the Executive Education Program at Duke University, the Executive Development Institute of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, and the Certified Public Managers Program.

He began his professional career with the Department of Mental Health at Ellisville State School in 1971. In 1975, Dr. Hendrix was appointed Director of the North Mississippi Regional Center in Oxford, Mississippi. At the age of 28, he was the youngest director of a major facility in the Nation. While in Oxford, he was also a professor of Special Education and an adjunct professor in Healthcare Administration at the University of Mississippi. In November of 1986, Dr. Hendrix assumed responsibilities as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, the State's largest agency. Dr. Hendrix is the longest serving Executive Director of Mental Health services in the Nation and will be retiring soon.

During his career with the Department of Mental Health, Dr. Hendrix has served on many Boards and Commissions including Chairman of the Mississippi Developmental Disabilities Council, member on the Governor's Council on Aging, and is currently the chairman and longest serving member of the Mississippi Board of Rehabilitative Services, past chairman and member of the State Interagency Coordinating Council for Children and Youth with Severe Emotional Problems, Member of the Mississippi Disability Resource

Commission, Children's Trust Fund Advisory Council and Statewide CDC Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Planning Advisory Committee. He is a member and former officer of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, Board Member of the Association of Mental Health Administrators since 1987, and has served as Executive Director for the Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped since 1980.

Dr. Hendrix was selected as State Administrator of the Year, Herman C. Glazier Award Winner in 1990, recipient of the Agency Leadership Award of the National Association of Superintendents of Public Residential Facilities for the Mentally Retarded in 1992, recipient of the Governor's Stennis Award for Excellence in Government in 1994, and selected for Honorary Membership in Pi Alpha Alpha in 1997. Dr. Hendrix is also a member of the Honorary Scholastic Organization of Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Delta Kappa.

Dr. Hendrix and his wife, Sandy, are the parents of 4 children, Jo Ellen Hendrix Townsend, Sarah, Randel, and Sandra and the grandparents of Grace, Jessica and Jeffrey Townsend.

For over 30 years, Dr. Hendrix has used his talent, knowledge, and skills to make Mississippi a better place and enhance the care of individuals with mental health concerns. We thank him for his service and know that even after his retirement, he will continue to be a pillar of his community and his State.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
LANE EVANS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2006*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Congressman LANE EVANS, who is retiring after serving this institution honorably for 24 years.

As Ranking Member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Rep. EVANS has served not only his 17th District constituents, but he has also been the voice for veterans nationwide. As a Marine and Vietnam veteran, Rep. EVANS had a deep and abiding understanding of veterans' issues and a keen sense of the unique issues affecting Vietnam veterans, like Agent Orange. He has been a tireless advocate for improving veterans' health care and benefits and was not afraid to challenge the Veterans Administration if he thought they were short-changing veterans' programs, particularly VA services for homeless veterans.

He shone a bright light on the horrific problems of antipersonnel land mines and authored the first law prohibiting the export of landmines which ultimately led to the awarding of the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize to the International Campaign to Ban Land Mines. His legacy on landmines has saved countless lives around the globe.

It is with a heavy heart that I bid farewell to Rep. LANE EVANS, one of the most dedicated and principled public servants that I have ever had the privilege to serve with. Semper Fi.

HONORING DR. PATRICK  
MCKIERNAN

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Patrick McKiernan, a remarkable public servant and advocate from my home State of Kentucky. Dr. McKiernan presently serves as Outreach Coordinator to Homeless Veterans for the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs.

Tragically, more than 1,000 veterans will be sleeping on the streets of Kentucky tonight. Dr. McKiernan recognizes that there is something fundamentally wrong when individuals who once wore the uniform of the United States are forced by circumstances to live on the streets. Under his compassionate leadership, the Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs continues to work to establish special assistance programs to help get veterans off the streets and into housing or treatment facilities.

Dr. McKiernan represents his agency on the Kentucky Council on Homeless Policy, advising the Governor and his staff on homelessness and housing issues across the state. He also represents Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs at the annual conference of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans in Washington, DC, and the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky.

In addition to his current work and responsibilities, Dr. McKiernan is developing plans to establish the Homeless Veterans Coordination Committee to provide additional guidance and support to help homeless veterans.

Dr. McKiernan's colleagues, and countless veterans touched by his exemplary work, note his unique ability to navigate bureaucracy and successfully resolve casework with unusual expedience. Recently, Dr. McKiernan intervened in a case involving a veteran afflicted with esophageal cancer who nearly became homeless due to the financial challenges of his illness. Because of his efforts, an American hero is receiving the care and assistance that he deserves. This is but one example in a long career of helping others.

It is my great honor to recognize Dr. Patrick McKiernan today before my assembled colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives. His leadership and service make him an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and appreciation.

RECOGNIZING MARK CLEMONS

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a business in my district that is taking a positive step forward to assist families and our troops overseas.

Mark Clemons operates the PakMail facility in my district in Newnan, and he has taken up a special project for our troops and their families overseas. Any time anyone wants to send a package to Iraq to a soldier, Mark makes sure that they do not have to pay for it.

Mark has taken it as a special project to ensure our heroes overseas receive the care

packages and support they so desperately need. Our men and women in combat need the touch of home, and Mark is doing something amazing to ensure that they are able to hear from all of us who support them here.

Mark sets an example that everyone should follow—doing what they can to help and support our men and women. Everyone has a way they can help, and Mark has found that way and is implementing it.

Mr. Speaker, we are grateful for all of our men and women, and those who “hold the ropes” for them back home, and we are grateful for Mark’s service.

CERCLA

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 8, 2006*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my regret that the 109th Congress was unable to address an issue of importance to hard-working Americans across the country. Some groups are misinterpreting the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, also called “CERCLA,” by seeking to apply Superfund liability to traditional agriculture as it relates to the use of animal manure as a fertilizer and soil conditioner. I was in Congress when CERCLA was passed, and I assure you that this is a misapplication of that law.

Congress did not intend this law to apply to animal manure returned to the soil as a fertilizer and did not intend this law to make every farm a hazardous waste site.

This misuse of CERCLA attracted attention from the Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, which held a hearing in November 2005. That hearing prompted me to introduce a bipartisan bill, H.R. 4341, along with distinguished co-sponsors, to specifically clarify CERCLA’s definition of “hazardous waste” to make clear that animal manure is not included. This became necessary because some have lost sight of CERCLA’s purpose. CERCLA was designed to fund the cleanup of dangerous abandoned industrial sites and chemical landfills, such as the infamous Love Canal site in New York. It was not written to cover ongoing agricultural operations.

I am very proud that 191 of my House colleagues have signed on as cosponsors of this bipartisan legislation. This level of support is a testament to the strength of our arguments and the threat that a misapplication of CERCLA poses to America’s farmers. H.R. 4341’s cosponsors represent all regions of this great country. The common thread is a dedication to U.S. agriculture.

Critics of farming claim that CERCLA has always applied to animal manure and should be broadly interpreted to fill gaps in the environmental laws. But, CERCLA was never intended to cover farming and agriculture, and it specifically excludes the normal application of fertilizers, such as animal manure. American farms already are subject to many federal and state environmental laws. Applying CERCLA to manure expands it beyond anything its drafters imagined. Critics believe that by targeting so-called “factory farms” their disregard for the law’s language is legitimate. Unfortu-

nately, these critics fail to understand modern agriculture. Today, integrated farming techniques allow large companies to work together with small, family farmers—they rely on each other. Driving these large companies out of business, as some seem intent on doing by misinterpreting CERCLA, will devastate the family farmers working closely with them. And, all have seen how an exaggerated interpretation of CERCLA liability can doom small businesses. Interpreting the law to include animal manure creates liability for every farmer in the country, big or small.

Mr. Speaker, for generations, animal manure has been used as a healthy, natural, organic fertilizer. It is not waste, but a commodity that is bought, sold and bartered for in small farming communities across America. Partly because of the use of this organic fertilizer, farmers have an outstanding track record as environmental stewards. They do not deserve to be treated like polluters or criminals. H.R. 4341 will remedy this situation and I look forward to returning to this issue in the 110th Congress.

H.R. 6344, OFFICE OF NATIONAL  
DRUG CONTROL POLICY REAU-  
THORIZATION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARK E. SOUDER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 7, 2006*

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, yesterday, before we passed H.R. 6344, I took the opportunity to thank the various members of the House and Senate, without whom we could not have passed this important and long-overdue legislation. As a point of personal privilege, I want to take this opportunity to thank the many staff members who worked so long and so hard for us.

First, I must thank the Staff director of our Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources. Marc Wheat has been with us for over three years, and he has been relentless and energetic in pursuing this daunting project. There is no other staffer on the House or Senate side who deserves more credit.

Subcommittee counsel Dennis Kilcoyne, who joined our staff in February, has led the negotiations with the Senate for months and skillfully steered this legislation through the demands and critiques of the many competing parties in Congress, the Administration and private sector. It was a huge task requiring patience, skill and diplomacy, without which the effort would not have succeeded.

The bipartisan nature of this negotiation has been an inspiration, and that is represented on the House side by Tony Haywood, counsel to the minority staff of the Government Reform Committee, who has ably represented the interests of our ranking Subcommittee member, ELIJAH CUMMINGS. He has been a team player with our staff.

I cannot forget the role played by our former Staff Director Chris Dones—now with the House Intelligence Committee—and our former Subcommittee counsel Nick Coleman. These men brought great insight and skill that has contributed much to this legislation.

And I would be remiss if I didn’t thank Susie Schulte of the Government Reform Committee

and Matt Miller of the Speaker’s Drug Task Force, as well as his predecessor Andy Tiongson. All of these people have been enthusiastic and resourceful partners in this fight.

Finally, I must mention all those staff members on the Senate side who responded so well to the hard work of our House Staff. First, I must thank Gavin Young—who represents Chairman SPECTER on the Judiciary Committee—and his predecessor Matt McPhillips, who just left last week to take up his FBI assignment in Denver. These two proved every bit as skillful in shepherding the bill in the last few weeks of maneuvering in that mysterious body we call the United States Senate.

Also we thank Jeremy Mischler and Melissa Sundberg of the Senate Drug Caucus. They have worked long on behalf of Senator GRASSLEY to help us finally reach the elusive goal of passing this bill.

Jackie Parker of Senator LEVIN’s staff and Reagan Taylor of Senator BIDEN’s staff have been working this issue for a long time, and my staff have nothing but high praise for their team efforts. Roscoe Jones of Senator LEAHY’s staff worked hard and in good faith in recent weeks with my staff to hammer out the last few wrinkles in the negotiations, and we thank him for his efforts also.

I also want to salute John Mackey of the House International Relations Committee, Janice O’Connell of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Tim Rieser of the Senate Appropriations Foreign Operations Subcommittee, who did so much in the drafting of the provisions to ensure that the Director of ONDCP carries out a study on the use of mycoherbicides as a way to kill off coca and opium poppy plants in an environmentally safe manner. Their efforts may succeed where thousands of tons of chemical spraying has failed.

Among the private sector groups, we are especially grateful to Sue Thau of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, Marcia Lee Taylor of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, and Ron Brooks of the National Narcotics Officers Associations Coalitions. From the treatment, prevention and law enforcement sides—respectively—they have been indispensable partners in our efforts to enact this law. Additionally, I must thank Professor Charles O’Keeffe of Virginia Commonwealth University, who gave us such helpful guidance on provisions to allow doctors to treat more heroin addicts who needs drugs like buprenorphine for treatment.

Finally, I am particularly proud that this Act to be signed by the President takes the first step to prevent what C. S. Lewis referred to as “the abolition of Man.” In the section authorizing the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, it explicitly bans from athletic competition anyone who has been genetically modified for performance enhancement. This technology of “gene-doping” is not yet viable in humans, but it is widely anticipated to be on the horizon. To that end, it is critical to anticipate the problem and explicitly address it.

The protocol set by the U.S. Anti Doping Agency, which follows the World Anti-Doping Agency, is also the standard followed by the International Olympic Committee. These standards state that “The non-therapeutic use of cells, genes, genetic elements, or of the